

Message Text

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65-60

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 VO-03

/024 W

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R 121550Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1162

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

UNCLAS LAGOS 08985

E.O. 11652 : NA

TAGS : OEXC, NI

SUBJ : NOMINATION FOR WASHINGTON WORLD PEACE

THROUGH LAW CONFERENCE: OCT. 12-17, 1975

REF : A. USIA 19926 B. STATE A-2314

1. POST NOMINATES FOR REGULAR THIRTY-DAY IV GRANTS MR. RICHARD O.A. AKINJIDE, IBADAN LAWYER, AND DR. EDWIN I. NWOGUGU, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND JURISPRUDENCE, NIGERIA, ENUGU CAMPUS. INCLUDED IN FY-76 CPP UNDER PROJECT B-1, GRANT SHOULD INCLUDE ATTENDANCE AT WASHINGTON WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW CONFERENCE. ALTHOUGH SIZEABLE NIGERIAN DELEGATION PLANS ATTEND, FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE ELIAS HAD REQUESTED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN SENDING TWO PARTICIPANTS WHO COULD NOT OTHERWISE ATTEND. IN CONSULTATION WITH ELIAS, POST SELECTED AKINJIDE AND NWOGUGU.

2. BIODATA FOLLOW:

A. MR. AKINJIDE

FULL NAME: MR. RICHARD OSUOLALE ABIMBOLA AKINJIDE

PRESENT POSITION : PRESIDENT, AKINJIDE & CO. (LAW FIRM)

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PAST POSITIONS : MINISTER OF EDUCATION (FEDERAL) AND PRESIDENT
OF NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION

DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH: NOVEMBER 4, 1931;

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP : NIGERIAN; NONE PREVIOUS

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO THE US: 1970

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO OTHER COUNTRIES: EUROPE 1967; LEBANON,
INDIA, 1971; U.K. (OFTEN)

PREVIOUS USG GRANT, : NONE

VISA ELIGIBILITY : NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE

REASONS FOR NOMINATION: AKINJIDE WAS FORMER FEDERAL MINISTER
OF EDUCATION IN NIGERIAN'S CIVIL REGIME AND FORMER
PRESIDENT OF NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION. CURRENTLY,
HE IS BUSY AND SUCCESSFUL IBADAN-BASED LAWYER, AND EXPECTED, ON
RETURN CIVIL RULE, TO BE PRIME ELEMENT IN NATIONAL POLITICS. HE HAS
AT TIMES BEEN VOCAL CTITIC OF U.S. POLICIES. EXPOSURE TO U.S.
SOCIETY AND OUR LEGAL SYSTEM MAY GIVE HIM INSIGHTS TO DISPEL
ILLUSIONS.

B. DR. NWOGUGU

FULL NAME : DR. EDWIN IFEANUICHUKWU NWOGUGU

PRESENT POSITION: SENIOR LECTURER IN LAW AND HEAD, DEPARTMENT
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND JURISPRUDENCE,
UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, ENUGU CAMPUS

PAST POSITIONS: LECTURER, FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF
LAGOS 1963-65

DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH: APRIL 1, 1933; IYI-ENU, ONITSHA, EAST
CENTRAL STATE

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP : NIGERIAN; NONE PREVIOUS
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PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO THE US: DEPARTMENT OF STATE GRANT, 1963
("TRAVEL SCHEME FOR YOUNG AFRICANS")

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO OTHER COUNTRIES: U.K. 1957-63; 1973;
1974; AUSTRIA 1959; SWEDEN 1966;
SWITZERLAND, HOLLAND, 1973; UGANDA 1975

PREVIOUS USG GRANT: 1963-AS ABOVE

VISA ELIGIBILITY : NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE

REASONS FOR NOMINATION: DR. NWOGUGU HOLDS INFLUENTIAL

POSITION IN UNIGERIA, AN INSTITUTION

IN EAST CENTRAL STATE. BESIDES HIGH CALIBRE OF THE NOMINEE, THE GRANT WOULD HELP ADD BALANCE TO OTHER EXCHANGE PROJECTS IN FIELD OF JUDICIARY LAW, FOR WHICH WE HAVE SENT GRANTEES FROM OTHER STATES, SUCH AS NORTH CENTRAL STATE, WESTERN STATE, AND LAGOS. UPON HIS RETURN, DR. NWOGUGU WOULD HAVE BETTER APPRECIATION FOR AMERICAN SYSTEM OF JUSTICE AND AMERICAN SOCIETY AND IDEALS AND WOULD BE BETTER ABLE TO INTERPRET THEM TO HIS COLLEAGUES IN NIGERIA. ALSO, DR. NWOGUGU MIGHT BE EXPECTED PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN FUTURE PROGRAMS IN AREA WHERE WE HEAVE NO POST, INCLUDING PROGRAMMING OF AMSPEC'S AND ENCOURAGING UNIGERIA PARTICIPATION IN FEDERALISM SEMINAR, ETC.

3. OBJECTIVES OF U.S. VISITS: THE NEUTRALITY OF AN INTERNATIONAL

CONFERENCE PROVIDES EXCELLENT

OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW NOMINEES ASPECTS OF AMERICAN LAW WHICH WORLD ADMIRES--SUCH AS LEGAL AID, FAIR AND DISPASSIONATE JUSTICE, ETC. WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW CONFERENCE IS APPROPRIATE STAGE FOR DEMONSTRATING TO PARTICIPANTS U.S. BELIEF IN PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS THROUGH NEGOTIATION OR INTERNATIONAL LAW BODIES. POST CONFERENCE TOUR WOULD EXPOSE THEM TO AMERICAN LEGAL SYSTEM IN ACTION AND PROVIDE LIVING PROOF OF ITS WORKABILITY. SUCH EXPOSURE WILL CERTAINLY CONTRIBUTE TO NIGERIAN CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT--ALONG LINES OF U.S. SYSTEM SO MUCH ADMIRER BY MANY NIGERIAN JURISTS--AS THESE GRANTEES WOULD PROVIDE MULTIPLIER EFFECT THROUGH INTERACTION WITH NIGERIAN COLLEAGUES. LIKEWISE, MUTUALITY WOULD BE SERVED BY EXPOSING U.S. LEGAL PRACTITIONERS AND JURISTS TO A RESPECTABLE AFRICAN LEGAL SYSTEM, THOUGH BASED LARGELY ON"

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BRITISH MODEL. GRANTEES COULD STRENGTHEN AMERICAN KNOWLEDGE OF AN AFRICAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM UNDER MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

4. ALTERNATES : 1. MR. M.A. ODESANYA

2. MR. CHIMEZIE IKEAZOR

5. REQUEST EARLY APPROVAL OF GRANTS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LAGOS08985
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750317-0689
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750954/aaaabvtr.tel
Line Count: 162
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE A-2314
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellEO
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2004 by RowellEO>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : NOMINATION FOR WASHINGTON WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW CONFERENCE: OCT. 12-17, 1975
TAGS: OEXC, NI, (AKINJIDE, RICHARD O A), (LAWYER, IBADAN), (NWOGUGU, EDWIN I), (CAMPUS, ENUGU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006